

RECOGNIZING JUDGE THOMAS A. RAPPA, JR. FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE NEW HAMPSHIRE JUDICIAL BRANCH

### HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2018

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of the Honorable Judge Thomas A. Rappa, Jr. and to thank him for his dedicated services to the New Hampshire Judicial Branch and the people of New Hampshire for the past 30 years.

After graduating from Franklin Pierce Law Center in 1986, Judge Rappa began a long career in the New Hampshire judicial system. He first worked for the Honorable Karl T. Bruckner in Woodsville, New Hampshire before taking on his own practice. As a lawyer, Judge Rappa served the people of New Hampshire in his work on the interdisciplinary coordinating council for domestic violence, in teaching legal and paralegal classes at Plymouth State College and in the College for Life Long Learning, and in instituting a Teen Court in his Plymouth, New Hampshire court. He also served for six years on the Pro Bono Advisory Board, where he received the L. Jonathan Ross Award in 1989, and on the Board of Governors from 1991 to 1993.

Throughout his impressive tenure, Judge Rappa has truly been a leader in his community and the Granite State as a whole, demonstrating the compassion, wisdom, and fairness that is the hallmark of a great judge. I am proud to rise today in acknowledgement of his achievements and wish him the best upon his retirement.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2018

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, due to a conflict, I unavoidably missed the following votes on June 28. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

1. On roll call No. 306, I would have voted "nay."
2. On roll call No. 307, I would have voted "nay."
3. On roll call No. 308, I would have voted "nay."
4. On roll call No. 309, I would have voted "aye."
5. On roll call No. 310, I would have voted "aye."
6. On roll call No. 311, I would have voted "nay."
7. On roll call No. 312, I would have voted "aye."
8. On roll call No. 313, I would have voted "nay," because the bill commits funding for three Littoral Combat Ships, which, as the Heritage Foundation wrote, has "disturbingly limited capabilities against a near-peer adversary." Purchasing two more LCSs than the Navy has even asked for is a classic Congressional boondoggle.

CONGRATULATING BRADFORD CHAMBERS ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

### HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Agent Brad Chambers on his retirement after 20 years of service in U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

Agent Chambers began his career by serving his country as a Helicopter Instructor Pilot in the U.S. Army. After serving in the military, he continued his passion for protecting Americans by working tirelessly for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, occupying positions of instructor training pilot, Air-Marine Operator, and Air Interdiction Pilot. Agent Chambers also was the Founder and one of the Chief Advisers for Law Enforcement Explorers Post 2100, a group that mentors high school and college students considering a career in law enforcement or the military, which highlights Agent Chambers' lifelong commitment to educating and protecting Americans.

On behalf of New York's 21st district, I would like to thank Agent Brad Chambers for his years of hard work and service to the public, and wish him all the best in the years ahead.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2018

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, June 14, and Friday, June 15, 2018, I was not present for recorded votes because I needed to travel home to attend my daughter's high school graduation. I would have voted:

- "YES" on roll call vote No. 265 (on passage of H.R. 5788),
- "NO" on roll call vote No. 266 (on passage of H.R. 5735),
- "NO" on roll call vote No. 267 (on agreeing to the Thornberry Amendment to H.R. 2851), and
- "NO" on roll call vote No. 268 (on passage of H.R. 2851).

### REMEMBERING MR. JUAN JOSÉ PEÑA

### HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2018

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Juan José Peña, who passed away this month at the age of 72. Mr. Peña was a dedicated community leader who committed much of his life to fighting for the civil rights of veterans and Hispanics.

Mr. Peña spent most of his childhood in the town of Las Vegas. He went on to receive Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from New

Mexico Highlands University in Las Vegas, where he studied a range of topics including Spanish Language, Literature, and Political Science.

Mr. Peña was drafted into the Army in 1969 and went on to receive a multitude of decorations including a Bronze Star Medal for Valor. He was the most decorated member of the Fourth Infantry Division when it returned to the United States.

After serving our nation, Mr. Peña became a Spanish Professor at New Mexico Highlands University in Las Vegas. He went on to work as a supervisory interpreter at the United States District Court in Albuquerque for more than two decades. Mr. Peña continued to work as a freelance interpreter after he retired.

Mr. Peña was an active member of our community whose reach extended to a number of influential organizations. He was a leader in Partido Raza Unida, Commander of the Albuquerque and New Mexico branches of the American GI Forum, Chairman of the Hispano Round Table, and founding member of Dads Against Discrimination. Mr. Peña's tireless fight against discrimination earned him numerous honors including the City of Albuquerque Human Rights Award.

Mr. Speaker, I want to extend my heartfelt condolences to Mr. Peña's partner of 23 years Ann Tran, his brother Fernando, his daughter Margarita, his grandchildren Shar and Mariana, as well as the rest of his loved ones. I hope they are comforted by cherished memories of Mr. Peña, and by the fact that so many in our community mourn his loss and celebrate his life with them.

### HONORING LENORE KARLIN

### HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2018

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lenore Karlin, a resident of NewBridge on the Charles, located in Dedham, Massachusetts, who recently celebrated her 100th birthday on April 25, 2018. As the Representative of the 8th Congressional District of Massachusetts, I am honored to represent such an extraordinary woman in the United States Congress.

Recently, Lenore was celebrated by numerous family and friends in a tribute to "A Life Well Lived." Lenore's story and life experiences serve as an example of a person who has made a profound difference in so many lives and continues today to bring joy to those that love and admire her. I include that story in the RECORD.

Mr. Speaker, during the celebration, surrounded by family and friends, Lenore's daughter told the story of this remarkable woman and spoke of Lenore's efforts to help others from an early age. A lifetime of volunteer work, Lenore has done it all, from traveling on the "Plant Mobile" to Boston's inner-city schools teaching students to how to grow plants to translating books into German in Braille.

Mr. Speaker, Lenore shows her love and support to family and friends by never missing an opportunity to make someone's day brighter. It is fitting today that I ask all my colleagues to wish Lenore Karlin a very Happy

Birthday and enjoy the story of "A Life Well Lived."

#### LENORE KARLIN—100 YEARS

What is a life well lived? Lenore Karlin exemplifies 100 well spent years.

Lenore was the first child born to Rose Wolf Gardner and Louis Gardner on April 25, 1918. Louis, a mite senior to his darling bride, Rose, couldn't have been happier. There were days when Mr. Gardner took baby in pram (decorated with American flags), paraded them down the street and placed Lenore in pram in his Kingston street Boston storefront window for the world to see. Louis, an immigrant, was a great patriot.

Two more children, Helene and Herbert followed. Louis, a shoe importer, took Rose and the children to Europe often for business and his great love, the opera. Whilst Rose and Louis enjoyed the Wagner ring in Beirut, Lenore, Helene and Herbert were tended by a nursemaid in Czechoslovakia.

These were magical voyages across the Atlantic Ocean. The children had a trunk just for toys. Lenore's father took them to factories where linens and China (perhaps even the teacups today) were crafted, as he was a collector of these fineries. They would return with cases of shoes and finery.

Morris Wolf, Lenore's grandfather on her mother's side was a well-respected detective for the Boston police, in fact the first Jewish one. He chased criminals around the globe. Lenore remembers as a child walking down the street with her grandfather who would don a prominent hat, and when they passed the mayor of Boston, in a gesture of respect, the mayor would tip his hat to Morris.

Lenore was an excellent student at Girl's Latin School. She excelled in all subjects. Unfortunately her father became ill when she was quite young and died when she was but 15 years old. But Lenore carried the firm foundation he planted with her: his ever-present optimism and enthusiasm throughout her life.

In the mid-late 1930's, German-Jewish refugees began arriving in Boston, homeless, penniless and without food. Lenore and her sister ventured house-to-house raising money for these people. Because of her efforts, the combined Jewish philanthropies asked her to speak at their annual dinner. She was seated next to the guest of honor, who held her hand and quelled her nerves. Lenore remembers this woman as the most beautiful blue-eyed woman ever—Eleanor Roosevelt helped Lenore get through her first public speaking engagement. That was just the beginning of Lenore's outward focused life. She has always generously given to several (and now hundreds) of charities of all sorts. Her pile of mail each day rivals corporations.

The Gardner house on Bicknell Street, had a game room on the 3rd floor, where friends often gathered. Some of Lenore's best friends lived on her street and nearby. Many happy times were spent there.

One night, Lenore was invited on a date with a guy she knew would be too busy to pay her any attention. She was envious of her sister who would be having a party at their house. She couldn't wait to get home from the formal affair and loll about with her homies. They had transferred to Jack Gottler's house across the street.

When Lenore opened the door, across the room she saw Harold, the handsomest man. "That man is my future husband", was her thought.

5 years later on August 31, 1941 in an intimate family ceremony Lenore and Harold married. World War II and children followed. For the war effort, Lenore rolled up her sleeves and participated in the Woman's Defense Corps.

There was loss, great tragedy and great love. Lenore and Harold wrote each other a letter every day of Harold's 18-month deployment and true to Lenore's squirreling, every one of those letters have been saved and assembled into albums. Patty was born on base in Florida. What a blessing for those tumultuous, unknowing, scary years to come to an end in victory. Lenore was present for her nephew Lewis' birth in Boca Raton on VJ day.

Now the young family could live their lives in a burgeoning victorious post-war USA. Harold began his practice in Boston and soon Bruce was born. The Karlins needed to feather a bigger nest. They did that at 20 Old Farm Road, Newton, and it remained the family homestead for 40odd years. Jill and Robin were born there. Many of you here today might recall the good times, the family times, the parties, the welcoming times that the Karlins entertained or were simply available. It seemed there wasn't a time/a night when after Lenore and Rosie poured their customary cocktail at 5:00 pm (and in the early years cigarettes) that someone wasn't showing up to join in the festivities. Lenore kept Martinis and Manhattans decanted in the fridge. Usually Uncle Leo and many others came by . . . Perhaps even one of you.

Harold would arrive after a day of work and visiting patients in the hospital and at bedside (usually after 7:30) and the family always ate some of Lenore's famous freezer concoctions together. There would be phone call after phone call and visit after visit: People coming for shots, prescriptions, ear cleaning (ear piercing once) marriage counseling, or just to hang out in the warmth of the Karlin kitchen.

People adored Harold and Lenore. They shared a great interest and love for people, which is why, over the years, they garnered so many friends including you. There were family vacations spent with some of you—the Jacksons, the Korsakovs, the Roberts, and the Sundells. Cape Cod, North Conway, or when Lenore and Harold would on an afternoon's notice head to Brazil. That took Hutsphah and organization to pull off. Lenore had, both, and some really good friends to look after the kids.

The friendships—so many people to this day call, remember and consider Lenore as a caring friend. The age range is vast—children to elderly. There was a time when there was a triumvirate: the hilarity of Shirley, Eunice, and Lenore rivaled Lucy and Ethel. The three girls managed to get in trouble like a sitcom. Taking a pee in the woods, playing golf and coming home with poison ivy in a very uncomfortable spot or trying snow skiing and laughing so hard that they were wet from more than snow.

The marriages, exchange students, friends, grandchildren—Lenore was sure to attend every meet, every match, every game even if it meant driving hours in harrowing conditions. Nothing daunted Lenore's support for her grandchildren—it was unwavering. Birthdays, anniversaries, births, graduations, special occasions, surely there are many of you who could make a book of the cards Lenore has sent. She to this day never misses an opportunity to make someone's day brighter.

Lenore has had a lifetime of volunteer work. PTA, Hospital Charity, Garden Club, and known as "The Plant Lady" as she and a gardening club buddy went via "The Plant Mobile" from school to school in the Boston inner city, teaching students to plant and grow plants. In addition she went weekly to The Hebrew Rehabilitation Center to help the elderly with planting and gardening. Lenore also wrote Braille. She translated books into German in Braille. First she did this by hand, and in later years had a Braille typewriter.

Lenore schlepped her children to every after-school class, whether they were interested or not. She was interested and they were going—opera, ballet, tennis matches, ice skating. That is a theme in Lenore's life—interest—great interest in everything. It can be a gray day and all Lenore will see is the little purple crocus making its way open. She is always eternally grateful and optimistic.

When Harold died—true to Lenore's style, it was soon overcome (not that one ever overcomes such loss). She soldiers on stronger and doing things her way. She moved into Newbridge and seven years later closed her California residence. She has never looked back.

Lenore does what she has always done—lives life on her terms. She exercises daily, she drinks (daily), and she drives (hopefully not at the same time). Firmly independent!

So in honor of Lenore . . . Let's all have a shot of American vodka!

Here's to you, Mom!

Cheer's to you, Mom!

#### RECOGNIZING COLONEL MARK BENNETT, UNITED STATES ARMY

#### HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2018

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the service of Colonel Mark Bennett who is coming to the end of his assignment as the Chief of the Congressional Budget Liaison for the Secretary of the Army.

Mark is a native of Ohio. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and Accounting from John Carroll University, a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree from Syracuse University, and a Master of Science degree in National Security and Resource Strategy from the National Defense University.

Over the last year, Mark has made meaningful, significant and enduring contributions while liaising with the House and Senate Appropriations Committees to provide critical resources for Army Warfighters. Mark and his liaison team worked closely with Members and Staff from every appropriation office in Congress; ensuring accountability to Congress and our Nation's taxpayers.

Through 26 years of active duty, Mark has served in a variety of tactical, operational, and strategic assignments. In 1990, Colonel Bennett was recognized as a Distinguished Military Graduate and commissioned into the Army as a Field Artillery Officer. He began his operational assignments with the 6th Battalion, 37th Field Artillery in Korea and also served as the Task Force Finance Officer for 4th Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, for a Multi-national Force and Observers rotation to Sinai, Egypt. He had two company command experiences with the 82nd Finance Battalion at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and the 177th Finance Battalion in Korea. Following completion of graduate school at Syracuse University, he served as the Executive Officer to the Deputy Chief of Staff for Resource Management, United States Army Training and Doctrine Command at Fort Monroe, Virginia. Shortly after arriving to the Pentagon, he supported the Army and Nation's response to the 9-11 attacks before attending Command and General Staff College.